WHITMAN

PUBLISHING COMPANY • 1220 MOUND AVENUE, RACINE, WISCONSIN

May 26, 1949

Mr. Eric P. Newman
c/o Edison Bros. Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of May 9 before me, and have checked a few old sale catalogs for what information I could find about the Unique New York Liber Natus with Georgius III Rex.

I do not have any information as to who might own this coin at present. Inquiries could be made of Stuart Mosher, Curator of the National Coin Collection, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, 25,D. C., or the American Numismatic Association, 155th Street & Broadway, New York City.

There are perhaps other people who might have information on this subject, but at least the above mentioned sources might steer you to further authorities.

I did find that the Bushnell Sale of 1882 contained this coin under lot #889, and it sold for $41.00. It had previously been sold in the Mickley Sale in 1867 for $36.00, lot #2458. It was then bought by a party named Stevens. I do not find it in any later catalogs, but it is possible that it may have been handled by private sale several times since.

I do not have any imitation or genuine English half pennies, especially between the dates of 1776 and 1788.

I hope the foregoing will be of some assistance to you.

Very truly yours,

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

R. S. Yeoman

R. S. Yeoman

RSY/ma

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Organized 1891 — Chartered by Congress 1912

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Racine, Wisconsin

THE NUMISMATIST

STUART MOSHER
Editor
McAllen, Texas

BURTON H. SAXTON
Business Manager
Box 548
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

May 12, 1949

Mr. E. P. Newman
c/o Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I have received your letter of May 9, but find it necessary to do some searching for a source of information on the Unique Liber Natus with Georgius III reverse.

I am about to depart for the Central States Numismatic Convention in Detroit, and will check up on the matter referred to in your letter just as soon as I have sufficient time.

Sincerely,

R. S. Yeoman

R. S. Yeoman

May 9, 1949

Mr. Robert S. Yeoman
3619 Graceland Boulevard
Racine, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Yeoman:

In your Guide Book of United States Coins there is listed as "Unique" under New York a Liber Natus on one side and a Georgius III Rex on the other. I am wondering whether you would be kind enough to advise me where that coin is located, as I would like to see if I could examine it to determine a few further facts with reference to it. It would be of considerable help to me if you could give me your source of information on that coin.

I happen to be making a study of miscellaneous dies with British insignia and believe further information with respect to this coin would be enlightening.

Incidentally, do you happen to have in your collection any imitation or genuine English half pennies between the dates of 1776 and 1788, or any combinations of these dies with any Colonial issues of the United States?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman/mc

Standard Form No. 1048
Form approved by Comptroller General U. S.
September 20, 1927

MEMORANDUM

PUBLIC VOUCHER FOR REFUNDS

Serial No. PS 54-136

D. O. Voucher No. 54 2249

U. S. The Library of Congress, Photoduplication Service
(Department or Establishment, Bureau or Office)

Location: Washington 25, D. C.

Appropriation or Fund: 03X8208 .1(13), Service Fees, Library of Congress

PAID BY
Account of
James A. Severn, Jr.
Disbursing Officer
Library of Congress
(FOR USE OF PAYING OFFICE)

To
Address
Edison Brothers Store, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Attn: E. P. Newman

Deposit received from the above-named depositor on July 6, 19 53

for Photoduplications ( ) P. O. Letter dated (X) June 30, 1953

has been applied as herein stated and the balance indicated is returned herewith:

Amount of deposit $ 3.00

Applied as explained in "Remarks" below

Balance authorized to be refunded $ 3.00

Remarks:

(X) Cost of Photoduplications
( ) No Photoduplications furnished

Date Sept. 21, 19 53 (Memorandum—Do not sign)

Title Accounting Officer

Refund by

Check No. 17351, dated SEP 25 1953 for $ 3.00 on Treasurer of the U. S. in favor of payee named above.

Cash, $ on (Signature of payee)
(Memorandum—Do not sign)

Other method, $,
(Describe)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—9488

June 30, 1953

Library of Congress
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

You have been kind enough to furnish photostats in the past and I would like to avail myself of this service again. Would you be kind enough to send me a photostat of the following:

Papers of the Continental Congress, No. 26, folio 537 through 542; also folio 559, and

Journals of the Continental Congress Volume XXVIII, pages 356, 357 and 358.

I am enclosing my check for $3.00 and if this is not the correct amount please advise me and I will gladly make an adjustment.

Thank you for your cooperation and service.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

June 25, 1953

The New-York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Attention: Miss Barck

Dear Miss Barck:

I sincerely appreciate your kindness in looking up in your various New York City directories the information set forth in your letter of June 19, 1953 as to hotels which issued tokens with British denomination. This was of great interest to me.

There is one further item on which I need information and I am wondering whether you have anything applicable. Samuel Atlee and his son, James F. Atlee, lived in New York around 1785-90. They were both partners in a coining operation in Newburgh, New York. Samuel Atlee is described in the partnership agreement as a porter brewer and James F. Atlee was a die maker. There is a Samuel Atlee who was in charge of American troops during the Revolutionary War and I wonder if he is the same person. Almost nothing is published about James F. Atlee other than a few remarks in Crosby's Early Coins of America. Would your indices have any references to either of these individuals which I might be able to run down. There is a good chance that James F. Atlee received his training in England before coming to America.

The reason for my request for the Atlee information is that I am writing a monograph for the American Numismatic Society of New York and I will appreciate your helpfulness very much.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN/js

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 10, 1953

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT
PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE

Edison Brothers Store, Inc.
Executive Offices
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Attn: Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Newman:

This is in reply to your recent letter concerning photoduplicates of the following items:
Papers of the Continental Congress, No. 26, folio 537 through 542; folio 559.

We cannot comply with your request because:

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Very truly yours,

Donald C. Holmes

Donald C. Holmes
Chief, Photoduplication Service

THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED IN 1804

R. W. G. VAIL
Director

170 CENTRAL PARK WEST
NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

DOROTHY C. BARCK
Librarian

July 13, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

We have received your letter of the 25th, about your interest in Samuel Atlee and James F. Atlee in connection with coining near Newburgh, New York. Miss Becker, our reference librarian, will take up your problem, and I shall send you anything she may find concerning them. The 1790 Census of Heads of Families of New York does not list either of them, nor do I find their names included in the first three directories of New York City, for 1786, 1787 and 1789.

On the other hand the 1790 Census of Heads of Families in Vermont, lists one Samuel Atley, as Head of Family living in Vergennes Township, Addison County. (The 1800 Census of Vermont lists no Head of Family named Atlee or Atley).

The account of the City of Vergennes by John D. Smith in The History of Addison County mentions James Atlee as Deputy Sheriff in 1790 and includes his name on a list of 1790.

You are probably familiar with the references to Machin's Coinage Mill in E. M. Ruttenburr's History of the County of Orange: With a History of The Town and City of Newburgh (Newburgh, New York 1875) pages 211-212, and with the account of Machin's copartnership agreement of 1787 in Jeptha R. Simm's History of Scoharie County, and Border Wars of New York (Albany, 1849) pages 596 to 598. If those volumes are not available to you in St. Louis, we can make photostatic negatives of the pertinent pages for you at our regular rates.

The Samuel Atlee of Revolutionary Fame to whom you refer was another gentleman. His full name was Samuel John Atlee, second son of William and Jane Atlee, born at Trenton, New Jersey, in 1739, died in Philadelphia on November 25, 1786. His family and career are given in some detail in an unindexed genealogy by Edwin Atlee Barber, entitled Genealogical Record of The Atlee Family, The Descendants of Judge William Augustus Atlee and Colonel Samuel John Atlee of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, 1884), pages 82 ff. That Colonel Samuel John Atlee had a son of the same name, born 1772, died 1839, whose connections, according to the brief account of him given on page 95, were apparently all in Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy C. Barck

Dorothy C. Barck
Librarian

July 17, 1953

The Library of Congress
Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: Mr. Donald C. Holmes
Chief, Photoduplication Service

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of July 10, 1953, in reply to my letter to you of June 30. You will note that in my request I also wished to have photostats of: Journals of the Continental Congress Volume XXVIII, pages 356, 357 and 358.

Of the original $3.00 which I sent, you may take out the proper portion for the documents you are able to photostat.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

July 17, 1953

National Archives
National Archives Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I asked the Library of Congress to have photostats taken of the following documents and they indicated that they were in your possession:

Papers of the Continental Congress, No. 26, folio 537 through 542; also folio 559.

Would you be kind enough to have photostats taken and I will be glad to send you a check for the cost.

This information is being requested in connection with a numismatic research project I am undertaking and I will appreciate your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

EPN/atb

July 20, 1953

The New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Attention: Miss Barck or Miss Becker

Gentlemen:

Your very helpful letter of July 13, 1953 is at hand.

With respect to the references you listed, I have photostats of the Ruttenber (what is the correct spelling?), but would appreciate it if you would send me photostats of pages 596 to 598 of Simm's.

I am delighted that you found that Samuel Atlee was living in Vergennes as Simm's also indicates that James Atlee was living there in 1790. You indicated that Miss Becker will do some further work on finding anything else about Samuel Atlee and James F. Atlee.

As I indicated, I am working on a very interesting problem, namely, the operation of the mint at Machin's Mill, Newburgh, New York, about which very little is known. I have assembled pictures of all the coins which were made at the mint and have studied the text of the partnership agreement, the original of which is at the American Numismatic Society. I believe I am going to be able to prove that counterfeiting of British coins at Machin's Mill was done to keep business operations going until a coining franchise from the State of New York could be obtained. This was kept very secret but by scientific study of the coins I can prove that the counterfeits are made at the same place as the patterns for New York coinage.

I have an improper reference which indicates that Samuel Atlee and James F. Atlee came to New York in 1784. This was said to have come from John William Leonard's "History of the City of New York" published in 1910, page reference 293. I cannot find any such reference and checked the index also. Do you have a more complete index to that book?

The New York Historical Society

The men constituting the Machin's Mill partnership, in addition to the two Atlees and Mr. Machin were James Giles, an attorney, whose listing in the New York City Directory I would appreciate, Mr. David Brooks, a member of the New York General Assembly, whose address and profession might be in the directory, and James Grier, of New York, about whom I know nothing. Would you see what the directory shows as to these gentlemen in 1787 or thereabouts.

You have no idea how much I appreciate your kindness and courtesy in helping me with this problem. If I had the opportunity to come to New York or had the material available here, I would not bother you but we, in our Historical Society here, help out many others to the extent we can and I sincerely appreciate your interest in my work.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

July 22, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

TO THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, DR.
170 CENTRAL PARK WEST
NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

PHOTOSTAT		
Simms History of Schoharie County and Border Wars (1845)		
pp 596-597	60	
598-599	60	
	$ 1 20	
Postage and mailing	10	$ 1 30

Pd 7/31

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington 25, D. C.

JUL 24 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

This is in reply to your letter dated July 17, 1953, requesting photostatic copies of folios 537 through 542 and folio 559 from Item 26, Papers of the Continental Congress.

A negative photostatic copy of these documents can be furnished at the rates quoted below:

Folios 537 through 542 - entitled "Propositions respecting the Coinage of Gold, Silver and Copper" - 6 pp., $3.00

Folio 559 - The Providence Gazette and Country Journal, July 24, 1784, article in re coinage, etc., 1 p., $0.50

It should be noted that the article from the newspaper cited above is carried over to folio 560. Should you desire a negative photostatic copy of the additional folio page, there would be an added charge of fifty cents.

We regret that regulations prevent us from reproducing records prior to payment; therefore, your remittance should be made to the National Archives by check or postal money order payable to the Treasurer of the United States.

Very truly yours,

Carl L. Lokke

For: Thad Page, Acting Chief Archivist
Diplomatic & Judicial Records Branch

July 27, 1953

Mr.Thad Page, Acting Chief Archivist
Diplomatic & Judicial Records Branch
General Services Administration
National Archives and Records Service
Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: Mr. Carl L. Lokke

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your letter of July 24, 1953, I am enclosing herewith my check for $4.00 to cover the cost of photostatic copies, as follows:

Folios 537 through 542 - entitled "Propositions respecting the Coinage of Gold, Silver and Copper" - 6 pp. - $3.00

Folios 559-560 - The Providence Gazette and Country Journal, July 24, 1784, article in re coinage, etc. 2 pp - $1.00

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

atb

July 30, 1953

Mr. Thad Page, Acting Chief Archivist
Diplomatic & Juducial Records Branch
General Services Administration
National Archives and Records Service
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Carl L. Lokke

Gentlemen:

On July 27, 1953 I made a request for photostats of Folios 537 through 542 - "Propositions respecting the Coinage of Gold, Silver and Copper" and Folios 559 and 560 -"The Providence Gazette and Country Journal". Money for this has been forwarded.

I would like to add to that request:

"Journals of the Continental Congress"
Volume XXVIII, pages 356, 357 and 358

for which I enclose my check for $1.50.

I will appreciate your service in completing this request.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 28, 1953

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT
PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE

Edison Brothers Store, Inc.
Executive Offices
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Attn: Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr. Newman:

This is in reply to your recent letter concerning photoduplicates of the following items:
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Very truly yours,

Donald C. Holmes
Chief, Photoduplication Service

4-3
810

SAINT LOUIS, July 30 1953 No.

THE BOATMEN'S NATIONAL BANK
OF SAINT LOUIS

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Treasurer of the United States $1 50/100

One and 50/100

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington 25, D. C.

August 11, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

This is in reply to your letters dated July 30 and 31, 1953, requesting a negative photostatic copy of Journals of the Continental Congress, Volume XXVIII, pp. 356, 357, and 358 and enclosing payment for same.

We regret that it is not the policy of the National Archives to prepare reproductions of printed material. Therefore, we are returning your check herewith.

It should be noted that many large libraries such as the Library of Congress and, perhaps, the St. Louis Public Library furnish reproductions of printed material. We suggest that you contact either of these agencies in order to procure the desired copy.

Very truly yours,

Carl h. Lokke

For: Thad Page, Acting Chief Archivist
Diplomatic & Judicial Records Branch

Enclosure

September 1, 1953

Mr. Leigh Danenberg
c/o Bridgeport Herald
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Dear Lee:

I hope this letter finds you and the family all in good health.

One of my very good lawyer friends here in St. Louis is an internationally known collector of rare coins. He is presently writing an article for one of the publications in that field involving a discovery made in the course of excavations in 1950 on a pre-revolutionary war estate in Stepney, Fairfield County, Connecticut, when there was brought to light an old iron kettle containing 200 copper coins. He would like to know whether or not this discovery received any newspaper publicity at the time and if so, the names of the present owners of the property involved and perhaps the names of previous owners, who might be able to give additional background information. I suggested to him that perhaps in the morgue of your paper there might be some information. Do you or any of your staff have any recollection of such an incident?

Please do not go to a lot of trouble but if there is any light you can shed on the matter it will be very much appreciated.

Please convey my kindest regards to all members of your family.

Puddin and I would like to hear that some of you will be coming to St. Louis soon so that we may have an opportunity to see and entertain you.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Mellitz

BM/ng

bc: Mr. Eric F. Newman
6450 Cecil

COPY

The Papers of Thomas Jefferson

Editor, Julian P. Boyd
Princeton University Library
Princeton, New Jersey

A COMPLETE EDITION OF JEFFERSON'S WORKS SPONSORED BY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY UNDER A GRANT FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY. PUBLISHED BY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

Associate Editors:
Mina R. Bryan
Elizabeth L. Hutter

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September 2, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Your letter of August 20 arrived during Mr. Boyd's absence in Europe. He will not return to Princeton until Nov. 1. I am writing, therefore, to express for him his sincere appreciation for the kind things you say about his treatment of Jefferson's notes on coinage and your valuable suggestions which, I am sure, can be incorporated in the discussion of the 1791 documents on coinage.

With many thanks, I am

Sincerely,

Mina R. Bryan

(Mrs.) Mina R. Bryan

September 9, 1953

Mrs. Mina R. Bryan
Papers of Thomas Jefferson
Princeton University Library
Princeton, New Jersey

Dear Madam:

Thank you for your letter of September 2, 1953 with respect to the comments I made concerning the notes on coinage.

Would you be kind enough to tell me when Volume 7 of "The Papers of Thomas Jefferson" will be available as I would like to have one as soon as possible. If you have a spare page proof of the coinage section that would serve my purpose.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

The Papers of Thomas Jefferson

Editor, JULIAN P. BOYD
Princeton University Library
Princeton, New Jersey

A COMPLETE EDITION OF JEFFERSON'S WORKS
SPONSORED BY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY UNDER A
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Iphigene Ochs Sulzberger · William J. Van Schreeven · Lawrence C. Wroth · John C. Wyllie

September 15, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your letter of September 9. Volume 7 of The Papers of Thomas Jefferson is available now through book stores or directly from the Princeton University Press, William Street, Princeton, N.J. for $10.00 a volume. I am sorry that I cannot send you an extra set of galley proof or page proof for the section on coinage. We asked the Press for all the available extra sheets they had of this section but they have, unfortunately, all been sent out, and we cannot get any more of them.

Sincerely,

Mina R. Bryan

Mina R. Bryan

EDISON BROTHERS STORES, Inc.

October 29, 1953

Rev. Edward Corning
Grand Street
Newburgh, New York

Dear Reverend Corning:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter dated September 21, 1953 with respect to the work I am doing on the coinage mill in Newburgh, New York.

You are, apparently, the one man who can give me some assistance in completing the facts I have been seeking.

It is not clear when Thomas Machin began to construct the mill or when it was first used for coinage, or when it was abandoned. I wonder if there are any land title records or abstracts which show who owned the property at the outlet of Orange Lake during the period prior to 1792. It may not have been Mr.Machin, as he had partners.

Mr. Shipp has indicated that the Orange Lake Schoolhouse is very near the site and I wonder if there is any physical evidence of the mill or mill building remaining. I have tried to locate information in the published edition of Calendar of New York Colonial Manuscripts and Endorsed Land Papers in the office of the Secretary of State of New York but have, so far, been unsuccessful.

I will appreciate your helpfulness more than you know.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

COPY

October 29, 1953

Rev. Edward Corning
Grand Street
Newburgh, New York

Dear Reverend Corning:

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I will appreciate your helpfulness more than you know.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

Keep for reference

December 18, 1953

Mr. Melvin Fuld
P.O.Box 14
Baltimore 31, Maryland

Dear Mr. Fuld:

I am completing an article on the coinage of Machin's Mill and this involves all of the copper coins attributed to New York as well as a large group of other colonials.

When I was in New York recently the boys at New Netherlands told me that you owned a Non Vi Virtute Vici which was a new variety and I want to be sure it was the item which was in the Parmalee sale and whether it is the same as a new variety of the same obverse of which I have a nice picture. I was told it is in rather poor condition due to being in a fire. In any event would you do me the favor of sending it to me for my inspection and I will be glad to return it promptly. I do not wish to complete the article without endeavoring to check every coin which may add information to it.

Incidentally, I must remark that you are the only father and son combination, who I know, who are actively getting tremendous enjoyment out of numismatics. That is certainly unusual.

A pleasant Holiday Season to you.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

December 18, 1953

Mr. Robert P. Aex, Manager
City Hall
Newburgh, New York

Dear Mr. Aex:

I am writing an article on the coins which were minted in Newburgh, New York, from 1786 to 1789. This took place at Machin's Mill which was near the outlet of Orange Lake and I am advised that the Orange Lake School House is more or less on the site. I have been working on this article for almost four years and have not been able to get any information as to the exact dates when Mr. Thomas Machin and his partners conducted their operations. I have pictures of all the coins and complete information on the coins and the reason for the operations in Newburgh.

A few days ago I read the December, 1953 Coronet which described you as a whirlwind of accomplishment and I thought perhaps you might help me overcome one small hurdle. How can I find out who owned the land where the Machin's Mill was located from 1786 to 1789? Does the School District have the abstract of title of the land in question? Is there a Title Company who has this type of information?

Several months ago I contacted the Historical Society and they do not seem to have the information other than the descriptions which are found in the various histories of Newburgh.

Just put me in touch with the right person and I am sure the information will be readily found.

I hesitate to tell you from the point of view of civic pride, that during the spare time which these coiners had trying to get official approval to manufacture money, they were counterfeiting British halfpence, which actually was not a violation of the New York law at the time.

Mr. Robert P. Aex
Newburgh, New York

December 18, 1953

If you would like to have one of these Newburgh counterfeits, I will be delighted to send you one.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

February 17, 1954

Mr. Frank Vidulich, Attorney
C/o Orange County Court House
Goshen, New York

Dear Mr. Vidulich:

Your name was suggested to me as one who might be able to help me solve a problem regarding the mills operated by Thomas Machin from 1784 through 1789.

I am writing a paper on the subject of the manufacture of counterfeit British halfpence and other copper money at these mills and am trying to determine who actually owned the ground during that period and when it was disposed of. The exact location of the mill is approximately 10 to 15 rods downstream from the outlet of Orange Lake which was then in Ulster County. Are there title records available which would show the ownership of this land?

Thomas Machin, as you may know, was the engineer who was in charge of putting the large chain across the Hudson river during the Revolutionary War and was a close friend of Governor Clinton, of New York, and much respected by George Washington for his engineering ability.

I will appreciate any suggestions you may have.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

February 25, 1954

Mr. Frank A. Vidulich
Mr. Matthew E. Devitt
120 Grand Street
Newburgh, New York

Dear Mr. Vidulich and Mr. Devitt:

The letters each of you were kind enough to write on February 23, 1954 have been extremely helpful to me and the information in them and in the enclosure conclusively solves the problem with which I was confronted.

I am familiar with Eager's "History of Orange County" as well as Ruttenbur's "History of Newburgh" and Simms' "History of Schoharie County", all of which mention the copper mill operated by Thomas Machin. These are all rare books which I have used either at the New York Public Library or at the Congressional Library.

The next time I am in New York I believe I will drive out to Newburgh and endeavor to see whether anything remains of the old mill site. There certainly ought to have been coins found around there. The counterfeit British halfpence which were made at the mill were actually not illegal since the laws of New York at the time covered the counterfeiting of gold and silver and did not affect copper money unless that was held by the same person in his possession for over ten days.

I am enclosing a specimen of the counterfeit halfpence made at Machin's Mill and I sincerely hope this expresses, in some way, my appreciation for your thoughtfulness.

Thomas Machin was at least nice enough to put George Clinton's picture on a coin but I do not have a duplicate of this coin.

When the article I am writing is published I am sure you will be very interested in its context because of your residence in Newburgh.

There is just one further question which you can easily help me with. The court, from the decision you quote, is described

February 25, 1954

Mr. Frank A. Vidulich
Mr. Matthew E. Devitt
120 Grand Street
Newburgh, New York

as the Second Circuit meeting at Poughkeepsie and I would like to know the exact name of the court for a proper reference to the decision.

Thank you, again, for your kindness.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

THE BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON, W.C.1
Department of Coins and Medals
TELEPHONE: Museum [redacted] 1555

5th. March 1954.

Dear Sir,

On my return to duty, my colleague passed over to me your most interesting letter on early coinages of the United States. I am afraid that our collection of these pieces is not particularly strong – we have for example no specimens of the CONFEDERATIO or INIMICA TYRANNIS issues, nor any of IMMUNE COLUMBIA. All other varieties seem to be illustrated in Crosby already, & I have noted several die identities.

We have a large collection of false halfpennies of various types & dates, & I shall be very happy to show them to Mrs. Norweb & discuss them with her when

she visits the Museum.

A variety that might interest you is a pseudo-Irish halfpenny of 1781 the head of which very closely resembles that of the GEORGIUS TRIUMPHO — VOCE POPOLI 1783 series. The same head also appears on an obverse reading GLACIOUS DEI PAX, rev. HEBRIDES 1797.

I look forward with interest to your friend's visit.

Yours sincerely,

J. P. C. Kent

Asst. Keeper.

March 10, 1954

Fairfield County Numismatic Association
C/o J. Norman Crosby
265 Washington Avenue
Apartment C-3
Bridgeport 4, Connecticut

Gentlemen:

I have been doing considerable research based on a coin which was found in the Fairfield County hoard of copper coins in 1950 at what is described as a pre-Revolutionary War estate in Stepney, Connecticut. This coin happens to be a counterfeit British halfpence produced at Machin's Mill in Newburgh, New York in 1786 and was predated 1776. It is tied in to Vermont, Connecticut and New York coinage by dies and die punches.

As you, no doubt, know, there were approximately 200 copper coins found in the kettle and were sold to Stacks, from whom I purchased a few of the coppers. The find was written up in the January, 1952 "Numismatist", page 20.

I am writing an article to submit to the American Numismatic Society and am very anxious to learn who was the owner of the land where the coins were found and who was the owner in 1786. Was this find ever written up in the newspaper? Who was the person who found it and what other facts are there surrounding this discovery? Did the finder keep any of the coins?

I will very much appreciate your cooperation as I believe that this hoard has solved many of the questions concerning colonial coppers which I have been trying to answer. Norman Bryant, of New Haven, bought many of the Connecticut coppers in the group but has no other information as to the find. Walter Breen, the writer of the article in the "Numismatist", does not know any further facts concerning the find.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

March 11, 1954

The New York Historical Society, Dr.
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Gentlemen:

I apologize for not paying, promptly, the photostat bill you sent me.

I was so interested in the content that I misplaced the bill.

Sincerely yours,

Eric P. Newman

EPN/js
Enclosure
air-mail

46-S

THE COUNTY CLERK AND CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT

NEW YORK COUNTY COURT HOUSE
CENTRE AND PEARL STREETS
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

ARCHIBALD R. WATSON
COUNTY CLERK AND CLERK OF
THE SUPREME COURT

April 1, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
Edison Bros.Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of March 30, 1954, you are informed that the actions listed by you therein are judgment rolls. Our suggestion is that you retain someone in New York City to examine the cases for you (at the Hall of Records, 7th Floor, 31 Chambers Street, Manhattan, New York City), in order to select those which you would wish to have photostated.

Very truly yours,

Archibald R. Watson

County Clerk and
Clerk of the Supreme Court

c mcg:n

April 5, 1954

Mr. Henry Kohn
Attorney at Law
120 Broadway
New York 5, New York

Dear Henry:

I heard from the County Clerk of New York County and he indicated that the actions I listed are on judgment rolls and that the cases are in the Hall of Records, Seventh Floor, 31 Chambers Street.

I would very much like to know the details of the case involving James F. Atlee and Samuel Atlee, regardless of the subject. The others I would only be interested in if they related to preparation of dies, minting, purchase of copper, machinery parts, smelting operations or anything relating to coinage. If, at a convenient time, this matter could be easily looked into I would be most grateful.

Thanks for any help you can give me.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

April 7, 1954

Mr. Henry Kohn
Attorney at Law
120 Broadway
New York 5, New York

Dear Henry:

With respect to the records of the County Clerk's Office, a friend of mine wrote me the information on the court proceedings on the first listed item. The entire court record on the rest of the items apparently are available on the 7th floor and only if your associate has some spare time should he look into the matter with a view of finding any information as to purchasing copper, machinery parts, smelting operations or anything relating to coinage or hard ware. "Hard ware", in those days, was the "cover-up" word for counterfeit coins.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

April 12, 1954

New Jersey Historical Society
230 Broadway
Newark, New Jersey

Gentlemen:

Would you be kind enough to send me a copy of your July, 1951 proceedings which I believe is Volume 69 No. 3. I am interested in the article on the New Jersey Copper Coinage.

I am enclosing a donation which will cover this and a little more.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

April 13, 1954

New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Gentlemen:

Would you be kind enough to look up in the Journals of the Assembly of the State of New York for 1787 and see whether, under date of February 16, 1787, a petition to coin copper money was filed by Von Voohris and Albion Cox.

If it is more convenient for you to photograph the page do not hesitate to do so and send me the bill.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

April 23, 1954

Mr. Nugent
Special Term Part 2
Room 315
Supreme Court Building
60 Center Street
New York City, New York

Dear Sir:

I am interested in obtaining the naturalization data which may be on file with respect to Samuel Atlee and James F. Atlee, whom I believe were naturalized in New York in 1784 or 1785. I understand that those records are in your possession and would appreciate it if you would look at them and give me the date of naturalization and also any information showing when these gentlemen came to America or any other data.

I am enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope for your convenience.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

April 27, 1954

New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Attention: Miss Dorothy Barck

Gentlemen:

Thank you, very much, for the information you just forwarded to me. I now would like to have you send me a photostat of pages 471 and 472 of Volume I of the Minutes of the Common Council of New York for July 21, 1789 and also that portion of the Gazette of the United States of July 22, 1789 which has reference to the difficulties with respect to the circulation of copper coins. I shall gladly remit for these photostats upon receipt of a bill.

You have no idea how much I appreciate your kindness and cooperation and I hope I am not too much of a nuisance in making these requests.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 10, 1954

The New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Attention: Miss Dorothy C. Barck

Dear Miss Barck:

Thank you for your nice letter of May 5, 1954.

I am enclosing $1.30, as indicated, for the pages 471 and 2, Volume 1 of the Minutes of The Common Council of New York for July 21, 1789 and a portion of the Gazette of the United States for July 22, 1789.

I appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED IN 1804

170 CENTRAL PARK WEST
NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

R. W. G. VAIL
Director

DOROTHY C. BARCK
Librarian

May 5, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

We have received your letter of April 27th continuing our correspondence.

We shall be happy to make for you a photostatic negative of The Minutes of The Common Council of New York for July 21, 1789, in Volume 1, pages 471 and 472, and also a portion of the Gazette of The United States for July 22, 1789, referring to the circulation of copper coins. The cost of those photostatic negatives would be $1.20, including postage. If you will send us your check for that amount, it will minimize our office bookkeeping.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy C. Barck

Dorothy C. Barck
Librarian

May 12, 1954

Harvard Law School Library
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure to use some of the books of American colonial statutes in your rare book room and I merely wish to thank you for the wholehearted cooperation you and your staff gave me with respect to the research which I am doing.

The general completeness of your American colonial statutes is remarkable and I was delighted to have the opportunity to enjoy using them.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

bc: Mr.Tom Kaplan

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY
LANGDELL HALL, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

May 17, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

May I thank you for your kind letter of May 12, 1954.

We are always happy to be of some assistance to anyone engaged in research requiring the facilities of this library. I hope that we may have the pleasure of serving you again.

Sincerely yours,

Earl C. Borgeson

Earl C. Borgeson
Assistant Librarian

THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED IN 1804

R. W. G. VAIL
Director

170 CENTRAL PARK WEST
NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

DOROTHY C. BARCK
Librarian

May 18, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

We received your letter of the 10th, enclosing your check for $1.30. Mr. Vigilante, our curator of newspapers, has had photostatic negatives made of the two pages of The Minutes of the Common Council containing the record for July 21, 1789, and part of the Gazette of the United States for July 22d, 1789. I trust they will reach you in good season.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy C. Barck

Dorothy C. Barck
Librarian

June 7, 1954

Harvard Law School Library
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

When I visited your Rare Book Room I made notes on the reference to a Massachusetts law passed in 1700 which was on page 119 of the Laws of Massachusetts, published in 1759. It was the twelfth or thirteenth William III but I cannot read my notes as to the chapter number. Would you be kind enough to let me know what the chapter number is.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

June 16, 1954

American Numismatic Society
Broadway between 155th and 156th
New York 32, New York

Gentlemen:

I would very much appreciate it if you would send to me the following books which I would like to see. I will, of course, pay the postage both ways. It is in connection with an article that I am writing for you that I need them. They are:

The Virginia Coinage - by Charles T.Tatman

Dies, Medals and Seals in the Museum of the Royal Mint - by Hocking

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

(Strasburg [illegible] 1935)

Bryce Metcalfe Original Mandan and other [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] 1910-1920

p205 Capt Thomas [illegible]

Edwin Machin [illegible] admitted

as member in 1935 [illegible] Capt Machin

THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FOUNDED IN 1804

R. W. G. VAIL
Director

170 CENTRAL PARK WEST
NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

DOROTHY C. BARCK
Librarian

June 29, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I hope that you will find an opportunity again this summer to visit New York, and to continue your researches concerning Samuel Atlee. As usual, our library and museum will be closed during the month of August, so that this year, I trust, you will be able to come, before the first of August, so that we may have the pleasure of welcoming you here.

In looking over our past correspondence, I find that I apparently did not send you some notes relating to Samuel Atlee, which Miss Becker, our reference librarian made long since, and I take pleasure in enclosing them herewith rather than typing them out.

The reference to Samuel Atlee in the printed Annals of The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York from 1785 to 1880 (New York, 1882) on page 11, is in connection with the first annual meeting of the Society on January 2d, 1786, when "the following persons were returned by their respective branches as representatives in the General Committee for the year: ...Samuel Atlee, [for the] Brewers." His name does not appear on the list of members of the Society beginning on page 398.

I do not find the general Society included in the 1787 New York City directory. In the New York City directory for 1789 the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen is mentioned on page 117, but only its four officers are named, and Atlee was not one of them.

With all good wishes to you in your interesting reseaarch,

Very truly yours,

Dorothy C. Barck

Dorothy C. Barck
Librarian

Enclosure

June 29, 1954

Treasure Room
Harvard Law School Library
Langdell Hall
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Gentlemen:

You have been so very cooperative I hesitate to ask you for a further favor but since I do not plan to be in Boston I would appreciate your help if it does not take more than a nominal amount of time.

I have a reference to an Act of Assembly of Virginia passed in the tenth year of the Reign of George III which would be 1770 and this act involves coinage. If you could locate it I would appreciate either a typewritten copy or a photostat.

My second problem involves an act passed December 12, 1753 by the Colony of New York entitled "An Act to Prevent the Importing or Passing of Counterfeits of British Halfpence and Farthings". What I am endeavoring to find out is whether this 1753 act was in the revised statutes of New York at any time between 1774 and 1789. In the Laws of New York for 1774, published by Hugh Gaine, the 1753 law was stillin force. I do not have available any information as to subsequent revisions between 1774 and 1789 and would like to find out if any revisions mention it.

In June, 1787 a law as to circulation of copper coinage was passed and I cannot tell whether this law had the effect of repealing the 1753 law or not.

If there are applicable revisions which you do not have and which are in some other libraries, I would be glad to write to them.

Many thanks for your kindness and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY
LANGDELL HALL, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman,

The chapter about which you inquired is number four on p. 119 in the Massachusetts compilation of 1759. The head of the page reads: "Anno Regni Regis Gulielmi, III. Duodecimo et Decimo Tertio. 1700". The title reads: "Chap. IV. An Act against the making or passing of Base or Counterfeit money".

Sincerely yours,

Eleanor Little

Treasure Room

ENL/RT

July 7, 1954

The New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Attention: Miss Dorothy C. Barck

Gentlemen:

Your very friendly letter of June 29, 1954 has been received and I am sincerely grateful for the work and cooperation which you gave me. Please be kind enough to thank Miss Becker for her investigation which proved very helpful with respect to certain matters.

There is a new item which appears by virtue of these notes, namely, that Edwin Machin Gardner was admitted as a member of the Society of the Cincinnati in 1935 based upon the service of Captain Machin. This is published in Bryce Metcalfe's book "Original Members and other officers eligible to the Society of the Cincinnati (1783-1938)", page 205. Would you be kind enough to see if there is an address for Mr. Edwin Machin Gardner, as I would very much like to write him, if he is alive, and see what he knows about his counterfeiting ancestors. Since I have not been able to find the papers of Captain Machin he may aim me in the right direction.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

RPN/atb

July 9, 1954

Harvard Law School Library
Langdell Hall
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Attention: Miss Little

Gentlemen:

I very much appreciate your letter of June 30, 1954 and the data which you were able to find.

As to the Virginia law, I have finally solved my problem since the November, 1769 act, which you mentioned, was amended by an act of February, 1772. When I visited your library I failed to locate these acts. I do not need a photostat now.

I would like to ask a few further questions concerning the New York statutes. You indicated that in the 1789 revision of the New York statutes there was a law of February 7 and I would like to know if that is the law of February 7, 1789. I would also like to know if there is any revised statutes of New York or compilation between 1777 and 1789. The third thing I would like to know is whether the passage of the April 20, 1787 act repeals or mentions anything about the 1753 act.

Thank you, again, for your wholehearted cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

July 15, 1954

Mr. Oliver H. Green
Harvard Law School Library
Langdell Hall
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Mr. Green:

Thank you, very much, for your letter of July 13 answering my inquiry addressed to Miss Little.

You have, finally, put my mind at east when you advise me that the New York act of 1753 with respect to counterfeit copper coins was specifically repealed on March 12, 1788. Would you, however, examine the Holt compilation of 1782 to see if the 1753 law was included as being in force.

You have really done me a real service by locating the specific repeal of the 1753 act by the act of March 12, 1788. I would like to have a copy of the language of the New York act passed February 7, 1788 and will be glad to send you the photostating cost but if it is short it could be copied in long hand or by typewriter.

Thank you for your helpfulness.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

July 30, 1954

Mr. Oliver H. Green
Harvard Law School Library
Langdell Hall
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Green:

Thank you for your letter of July 27, 1954.

In view of the fact that the Holt compilation of New York laws does not contain the 1753 act relative to counterfeit copper, I would like to have its full citation. Would you take this data from the title page.

There is one item which I believe would be beneficial to me as a photostat, namely, the 1753 act itself. Could you arrange to have a photostat taken from your earliest publication of the act?

Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

BPW/atb

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY
LANGDELL HALL, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

July 27, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
Saint Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman,

In reply to your letter of July 15, the Holt compilation does not mention the 1753 act at all.

As to the other matter, the February 7, 1788 act is in the process of being photostated. It will be sent to you along with the bill.

Sincerely yours,

Oliver H. Green

OHG/rt

August 6, 1954

Mrs. T.Preston Lockwood
1075 Park Avenue
New York City, New York

Dear Mrs. Lockwood:

I am writing a book on the history of the operation of the mint which made copper coins at Newburgh, New York in 1787 and one of the partners was James Giles.

Very little is known concerning this coinage mint and I am trying to gather all of the interesting material with respect to it. James Giles was the attorney for the group and kept the books and I am wondering whether his papers are in existence, either in any of the historical societies or in the possession of any of the family.

The mint was known as Machin's Mills and was operated by several former officers in the Revolution.

I got your name from the records of the Daughters of the Cincinnati and would very much appreciate it if you could give me any assistance which you can. If there is any other member of the family who would be apt to have the information, please advise me.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

August 16, 1954

New York Public Library
New York City, New York

Gentlemen:

Occasionally, in the past, you have been nice enough to give me information, by mail, and I hope I am not imposing by asking you a further question.

In 1782 there was published, a Holt compilation of the laws of New York. Harvard Law School gave me certain information from this publication but, unfortunately, the front portion of it is missing from their copy. I would, therefore, like to have you inform me as to the details on the title page and also whether there is any introduction which indicates there is any official approval to the revision.

I will be most appreciative.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

LAW OFFICES OF
Henry Kohn

120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 5, N.Y.
RECTOR 2-6676

August 17, 1954

Mr. Eric Newman,
300 Washington Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Eric:

The telephone directory reveals the following information about Mrs. Lockwood and Mrs. Castles. I trust it will be helpful.

Mrs. T. Preston Lockwood
53 East 66th Street,
New York City.
Telephone: Tr. 9-4298

Mrs. John W. Castles,
180 East 79th Street,
New York City.
Telephone: Rh. 4-5209

Sincerely,

Henry Kohn

HK:BB

WORTH 4-3200

JOHN W. CASTLES
14 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

September 1, 1954.

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

My sister, Mrs. T. Preston Lockwood, has given me your letter to her of August 6, inquiring about our ancestor, General James Giles.

I did not know that General Giles was an attorney. He came from Bridgetown, which is in the southernmost part of New Jersey. He was a young man when the War broke out and was a lieutenant in the Militia. He was assigned as an aide and liaison officer to Lafayette, with whom he spent the rest of the War.

In the Giles papers which I have, there is no mention of the mint at Newburgh, New York. However, I will forward your letter to relations of ours in New Orleans, who might know something about the matter you are interested in.

Sincerely yours,

John W. Castles

September 7, 1954

Mr. John W.Castles
14 Wall Street
New York 5, New York

Dear Mr. Castles:

Thank you for your nice letter of September 1, 1954.

James Giles is listed as an attorney in New York City in the 1786 directory and, apparently, lived in New York City for quite some time after the war.

The mint at Newburgh, New York was kept as a secret because there was some question as to whether what was being done was lawful or not. His partners were almost all other American officers of the Revolution. Thomas Machin was the principal operator of the mill in which the coins were made and Governor George Clinton, of New York, owned the land.

Would you be kind enough to tell me whether you have any Giles papers covering the period 1786 to 1789. I have had the New York Historical Society look up as much information as was readily available about James Giles and there are a number of different references to his activities. There is nothing concerning his partnership in the mint except that the contract he entered into with respect to the mint is at the American Numismatic Society. It is entirely possible that in his papers another copy of this partnership contract also remains with additional data.

I look forward to hearing from you with respect to whatever you can find.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

September 22, 1954

The New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Attention: Miss Barck

Gentlemen:

I am wondering if you could help me locate the proper source for some information.

I want to determine, in 1773 and in 1775, what the various rates of exchange were between the colonial currencies of the colonies and the mother country or the Spanish mill dollar. These rates must have been published currently in the commercial sections of newspapers and I thought you might know what newspaper might have contained this type of information. Could you give me any lead as to where this might be found.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

September 27, 1954

New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Attention: Miss Barck

Gentlemen:

With respect to my request of September 22, 1954 asking for the various rates of exchange between the paper currencies of the various colonies in America in 1773 and in 1775, Mr. Kenneth Scott wonders if they could be contained in Mill's & Hicks, British and American Registry. He also suggests the possibility that the "American Country Almanac" might have been published in the years in question. Almost any commercial publication should have the information.

There is a book, by J.Wright, called "The American Negotiator", published in London, in 1761 which contains this information,in the introduction,for the year in which it was published. It ought to be a matter which was currently published prior to the Revolution as it was necessary in connection with trade between the colonies.

Your helpfulness will be most appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

September 29, 1954

Harvard Law School Library
Treasure Room
Langdell Hall
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Attention: Miss Little

Gentlemen:

On June 28, 1776 New Hampshire passed certain laws with respect to coin and paper money and I would appreciate it if you could send me photostats of those acts.

Your cooperation is very much appreciated in untangling the problem I am struggling with.

Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

September 29, 1954

Mr. Sawyer McA. Mosser
American Numismatic Society
155th and Broadway
New York 32, New York

Dear Mr. Mosser:

Over the summer I have made considerable progress in the article I am writing on colonial copper coinage and my opus is over half written. I do need to have pictures made of a few more coins and wonder whether they can be sandwiched into your regular work.

I would like to have some special enlargements made of certain pictures you have already taken and it was my thought that you might mail me the negatives and let me have them done here and I will return the negatives. That would simplify the work considerably.

Would you advise me on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

October 14, 1954

American Numismatic Society
Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets
New York 32, New York

Gentlemen:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 6, 1954 in answer to my inquiry of September 29 about having a few pictures taken of coins and about certain negatives being loaned to me. Frankly, I am very disappointed not being able to have any reasonably near date where I can have pictures taken. I am working on an article for your organization and have borrowed certain coins from other people, including Mrs. Norweb who is the head of the American Coin Committee on which I serve. I hesitate to hold these coins out for too long a period and wonder if you would not be in a position to run in, at the most, two or three plates of pictures in the course of other work you are doing. It would be a great service to me. Would you be kind enough to give that matter your consideration so that I could get my work done.

I do not know of any other photographers who could handle coin photography.

May I hear from you.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

October 14, 1954

New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West
New York 24, New York

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of October 8, 1954 giving me certain data with respect to exchange ratios in the period just prior to the Civil War. In Gaine's Universal Register or American and British Calendar for 1775, page 148, you quote a table which has the value of coins as they pass in Great Britain, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, New York, Massachusetts, South Carolina and Georgia. I would like to have the value of a Spanish dollar in all of the jurisdictions which are listed. From that I can figure the ratio between the various currencies of the colonies. I hope that is not an inconvenience as you only have to copy off a few numbers.

I can fully understand how you feel in losing the services of Miss Barck but I see that her interest in historical matter has merely been diverted up the river. It is also a coincidence that the research I am doing revolves around the activities at Newburgh and that she has moved right to that location.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY
LANGDELL HALL, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

October 14, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman,

According to the holdings of the library here, and the bibliographies I have checked, New Hampshire made only one resolve during the period of the revolution. It concerns the clarification of a militia law.

I can suggest nothing further except the law noted in my letter of October 4.

Sincerely yours,

Eleanor Little

Treasure Room

ENL/RT

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY
LANGDELL HALL, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

October 4, 1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman,

I can find no laws enacted in New Hampshire on June 28, 1776, concerning coin and paper money. There is one act passed July 3, 1776, entitled, "An act to prevent the forging and altering bills of publick credit, and for preventing the depreciation thereof; and for making the bills of credit of the United-Colonies, and the bills of this colony, a tender in all payments".

Please let me know if this is the one you want.

Sincerely yours,

Eleanor Little

Treasure Room

ENL/RT

October 11, 1954

Treasure Room
Harvard Law School Library
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Attention: Miss Little

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of October 4, 1954 with respect to the New Hampshire law enacted June 28, 1776. Apparently, this was a resolve and might, therefore, not have been construed to be an act. I found it in Force's "American Archives" and thought there might be something further in the books which you have on that subject.

Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Yale University Library
New Haven Connecticut

James T. Babb
Librarian

John H. Ottemiller
Donald G. Wing
Associate Librarians

November 10,1954

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Secretary
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman;

I regret that your letter of September 15, 1954, to Miss Dorothy Cox has been in effect mislaid for the past month and a half because Miss Cox is no longer on the library staff. Apparently she was here however, opened the letter, and thought she had turned it over to the former Curator of Numismatics, and he found it only today.

At the present time the collection is in charge of Mr. Philip M. Neufeld, who is able to be here only on occasional Saturday afternoons. I am sending your letter to Mr. Neufeld whose address is 365 West End Ave. New York, N.Y. He will, I hope, be able to answer your questions and if possible to arrange for your seeing the material you are interested in.

Sincerely yours,

Henry M. Fuller

Henry M.Fuller
Reference Librarian.

HMF/s

June 15, 1955

Miss Dorothy Barck
Washington Headquarters Museum
Newburgh, New York

Dear Miss Barck:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness during our very short stay in Newburgh.

I am looking forward to the receipt of the text or photostat of the bill of Thomas Machins for hauling the various parts of the chain. I am satisfied that the links of the chain were already put together in groups at the time they were hauled and therefore we can figure out how many links were in a group. By this means we can tell how many logs there were and, as I told you, this can be confirmed by the number of straps and pins. Would it be possible for you to send me the measurements of the logs and the type of wood; also the measurements of your links and the weight of your links. I think this will make a wonderful item to write up.

As I told you, I am very interested in any information which could be obtained about the Sarvis family which Mrs. Grace Nichols said was formerly the name Jarvis. Perhaps Ruttenber mentions such a name or perhaps Eager might mention such a name. I would be interested in what you are able to determine as these books are not available to me here.

If you think it would be worthwhile to have me give the museum a coin which was struck in Machins Mills, I will be glad to do so. It would be a counterfeit British halfpence and I hope it will not insult the townsfolk.

Kindest regards and, again, many thanks.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

June 29, 1955

Mr. Edward White
Larchmont, New York

Dear Ed:

I am enclosing copies of letter I received from Washington's Headquarters and Museum, a copy of the fascinating bill for the transportation, etc. of the parts of the West Point chain, and a copy of my letter to the superintendent.

Is it possible for you to get me a copy of the 62nd Annual Report of the Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers which, apparently, published this article on the river obstructions in 1946.

I still think you should take a trip up to Newburgh, not only to see the parts of the obstructions they have there and those they have at West Point, but to enjoy a delightful afternoon with your family.

Sincerely yours,

EPW/atb

June 29, 1955

Miss Dorothy C. Barck
Historic Site Superintendent
Washington's Headquarters and Museum
Newburgh, New York

Dear Miss Barck:

Thank you for your letter of June 25.

I have been studying the copy of the bill which you sent and have reached the following conclusions:

There are 6 links, 4 bolts and 4 clips in a set. In almost every case the links were transported in units of 3 indicating that 3 links were joined on each of the logs and my guess is, therefore, that the logs were 3 links apart. It took 2 clips on each end of each log and 1 bolt on each side of each end of each log.

I would like to have the measurements of your links as well as the weight of one of them. The weights indicated are in tons, hundredweights, quarterweights (28 pounds) and pounds.

The money is in New York pounds, shillings and pence.

I am going to ask a friend of mine to work on this matter and I think we can reconstruct what was done by studying the matter carefully.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

June 30, 1955

Miss Dorothy C. Barck
Historic Site Superintendent
Washington's Headquarters and Museum
Newburgh, New York

Dear Miss Barck:

I am enclosing, as a gift to the museum, 2 coppers made by Thomas Machin at his mint at Orange Lake, Newburgh, New York. One is a 1787 counterfeit British copper halfpence. There are no genuine British halfpence dated 1787 and the counterfeits were made because there was no specific law against counterfeiting copper coins in New York at the time. The other coin is a Vermont copper which has a Vermont obverse and on the reverse the identical die used on the counterfeit British halfpence was used. This identical reverse die was badly worn when it was used on these Vermont coins. Those who had the Vermont coining franchise became partners of Thomas Machin and others in 1787.

There were a few other types of coppers made at Machins Mills but the two examples enclosed are the principal coinage.

The mint operated in 1787 and 1788 but the copper panic of 1789 made it unprofitable to make these coppers.

I hope these will prove of interest to your visitors.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Office of the Trustees of
Washington's Headquarters
and Museum
Newburgh, N.Y.

July 8, 1955

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington A enue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman,

Thank you so much for presenting to our Museum the two coppers made by our friend Thomas Machin at Orange Lake: the 1787 counterfeit British half pence and the Vermont copper. We are very pleased indeed to receive these examples of local coinage and of Machin's enterprise.

I have copied off the helpful information about them, from your letter of June 30th, to accompany the two coins.

Yours most sincerely,

Dorothy C Barck

Dorothy C. Barck
Historic Site Supt.

October 18, 1955

Mr.Charles L.Wallis
Keuka College
Keuka Park, New York

Dear Mr. Wallis:

It was very nice of my friend, Kenneth Scott, to suggest my name to you with respect to the work I have been doing on the coinage mill which operated at Newburgh, New York about 1787.

I have been working on a learned dissertation on this and related numismatic subjects involving New York and Vermont coppers and had planned to have the matter published by a numismatic publication, however, I have an open mind as to whether this material, if written from a non-technical point of view, would be of interest to your readers and I will certainly give the matter serious consideration.

I would like to know from you whether illustrations can be put with the article and it might also be helpful to let me know how many readers you have. I am embarrassed to say that I have never seen a copy of your publication and perhaps I should do that.

I have completed my research on the Machins Mills material so that further fact finding would not be necessary. Perhaps an informal write-up for you and a more technical numismatic publication would not be in conflict. An interesting title might be: "Lawful Counterfeiting of Coins in New York".

I will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

March 8, 1956

Massachusetts Historical Society
Boston, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

I am looking for the text of two letters from John Adams to John Jay, one dated April 10, 1787 and one dated April 22, 1787. These letters are not included in either the Revolutionary Diplomatic correspondence or in the Works of John Adams and I am wondering whether you have possession of the Adams papers so that the text of these letters can be obtained.

The reference I am looking for in each of them involve counterfeit copper coins being sent from England to America.

There is a possibility, of course, that these items are published and, no doubt, you would know if that has occurred.

Would you be kind enough to let me know if you have the Adams papers or where they might be if you do not have them.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1154 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON
15

March 15, 1956

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

There is one letter from John Adams to John Jay in John Adams' letter book under date April 10, 1787. The letter books have been filmed and distributed to certain subscribing libraries. I believe the nearest library to you is the University of Illinois Library. I am sorry that we cannot provide you with a print of the document, but that is not in accordance with the rules drawn up for the Adams Microfilm Project.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen T. Riley

Stephen T. Riley
Librarian

STR:RM

COMMONWEALTH 6-1287
COMMONWEALTH 6-1288

FRANK D. WASHBURN
MAURICE M. GOULD
A.N.A. LIFE MEMBER NO. 144

Copley Coin Company

Coins » Paper Money « Medals

581 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON 16, MASS.

April 6, 1956.

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Walter Breen was in our office today, and in looking over our Colonials suggested that we send you these Machin half pennies for your inspection. He thought one of them was a variety which you had never seen.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

COPLEY COIN CO.

F. D. Washburn

M

F. D. Washburn

April 16, 1956

Copley Coin Company
581 Boylston Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

On April 6, 1956 you wrote me that you were sending me some Machins halfpennies for my inspection. Since I have not received them I am merely calling that to your attention. I will, of course, be glad to buy any which I do not have in my collection and will give you any information on the others which you might care to have.

I am enclosing a reprint of my article on the James II tin piece for your library.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

April 20, 1956

Mr. F. D. Washburn
581 Boylston Street
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Washburn:

I am returning herewith the two Machins Mills coins which you were kind enough to send me.

I am familiar with both of these and the one Walter thought was new was slightly deceptive because of its wear but it is a variety I have seen many specimens of. If, however, you wish to sell these coins, let me know their price and I will either give them away or trade them to an appropriate person.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

cc Walter Ross

April 30,1957

Dr. Herbert J. Wright
Schoharie, New York

Dear Doctor Wright:

For quite a substantial period I have been endeavoring to find out what happened to the papers of Thomas Machin who, as you no doubt know, operated a mint near Newburgh, New York, in 1787 and who eventually moved to Schoharie County and died at Charleston.

I am writing a monograph on the Machin's Mills Mint and notice from "The History of Schoharie County" that Thomas Machin's papers were available to Jeptha Simms 100 years ago. Have you any idea as to what might have happened to them?

Your name was given to me by one of the men at the Central States Numismatic Convention, in St. Louis, which was just held.

I will be very grateful for any assistance you can give me.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS AND MUSEUM

NEWBURGH, NEW YORK

March 27, 1961

Mr. Eric P. Newman, President
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for your courteous letter of March 3rd with reference to Thomas Machin and his mint.

Upon receipt of your letter, we looked up your earlier correspondence and located two coins which you presented to us in 1955. One was a Vermont copper and the other a counterfeit British half penny. It is the former that interests us at the moment.

The information with the Vermont coin (from your letter of June 30, 1955) does not agree with your most recent letter. We therefore assume that you have located more and different data than you wrote us in 1955. At that time you said the Vermont coin was struck by Machin for that State, but your recent letter says that Machin made no coins for Vermont.

At any rate, the question of E PLURIBUS UNUM on such coins is settled, leaving only the above contradiction to be cleared up.

Upon publication of your monograph, we shall be happy to place our order for four (4) copies for us here.

If you can spare another "Vermont" coin, we shall be delighted to have it.

With kindest greeting and regard,

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Miller

(Major) Kenneth C. Miller
Historic Site Supt.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 7, 1998

TO: Mike Ringo

FROM: Eric P. Newman EPN/bv

I found in my unassorted old coin photographs a large group of pictures of counterfeit English halfpence.

Whether they are from my present collection, from the part of my collection which was stolen about 1961 or the collection of someone else, I do not know.

Do you wish to see them?

Is anyone writing up the varieties of these counterfeit pieces and trying to classify them? Such a project is definitely needed as the presently existing publications do not fill the need.

EPN:bv

In the archeological work at Hannahstown and Fort Legonier, Pennsylvania over two hundred eighteenth century copper coins have been found in and around the homes, taverns and encampment areas. They included George II and George III English halfpence (genuine and counterfeit), Connecticut, New Jersey, and Nova Constellatio coppers. There was no piece with the evasive legend. type.

See my introduction to Noe republication on Massachusetts silver coinage